

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A multiprocessor system (10) includes a plurality of processing modules, such as MPUs (12), DSPs (14), and coprocessors/DMA channels (16). Power management software (38) in conjunction with profiles (36) for the various processing modules and the tasks to be executed are used to build scenarios which meet predetermined power objectives, such as providing maximum operation within package thermal constraints or using minimum energy. Actual activities associated with the tasks are monitored during operation to ensure compatibility with the objectives. The allocation of tasks may be changed dynamically to accommodate changes in environmental conditions and changes in the task list. Temperatures may be computed at various points in the multiprocessor system by monitoring activity information associated with various subsystems. The activity measurements may be used to compute a current power dissipation distribution over the die. If necessary, the tasks in a scenario may be adjusted to reduce power dissipation. Further, activity counters may be selectively enabled for specific tasks in order to obtain more accurate profile information.